

Asbury Theological Seminary ePLACE: preserving, learning, and creative exchange

Syllabi

eCommons

1-1-2004

CH 550 Cambridge Summer Sschool In Contemporary Methodist Theology: A Wesleyan Paradigm Of Renewal For Today

Paul W. Chilcote

Follow this and additional works at: <http://place.asburyseminary.edu/syllabi>

Recommended Citation

Chilcote, Paul W., "CH 550 Cambridge Summer Sschool In Contemporary Methodist Theology: A Wesleyan Paradigm Of Renewal For Today" (2004). *Syllabi*. Book 1582.
<http://place.asburyseminary.edu/syllabi/1582>

This Document is brought to you for free and open access by the eCommons at ePLACE: preserving, learning, and creative exchange. It has been accepted for inclusion in Syllabi by an authorized administrator of ePLACE: preserving, learning, and creative exchange. For more information, please contact thad.horner@asburyseminary.edu.

CAMBRIDGE SUMMER SCHOOL IN CONTEMPORARY METHODIST THEOLOGY: A WESLEYAN PARADIGM OF RENEWAL FOR TODAY

July 10-22, 2003
Asbury Theological Seminary - Florida
paul_chilcote@asburyseminary.edu

Dr. Paul W. Chilcote
Office 407-482-7651
Home 407-971-9911

PURPOSE/DESCRIPTION

This seminar is an exploration of the distinctive characteristics of renewal associated with the Wesleyan movement that are of value to the life of the church today. It will involve a reexamination of the centrality of scripture, saving faith, holistic spirituality, accountable discipleship, formative worship, and the concept of church as mission in the life of the world.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

At the conclusion of this course, the student will be able:

1. To articulate the principle characteristics of Christian renewal associated with the Wesleyan Revival of the eighteenth century;
2. To demonstrate a knowledge of and appreciation for the particular contributions of the laity (and women in particular) to processes of renewal in the Christian community;
3. To apply a particular aspect of renewal to one's own life and/or ministry;
4. To interface the theological heritage of Methodism with aspects of renewal; and
5. To translate the discoveries of the course into practical forms/actions that will shape or inform the contemporary mission of the church.

SCHEDULE/OUTLINE

Daily Morning Routine/Discipline

7:30-8:30	<i>Breakfast</i>
8:30-9:00	<i>Alternating Morning Eucharist/Morning Prayer</i>
9:00-10:15	<i>Lecture/Input</i>
10:15-10:45	<i>Band Meetings</i>
10:45-11:00	<i>Break</i>
11:00-12:15	<i>Discussion/Application/Praxis</i>

Thr, July 10

Renewal in the Life of the Church

Eucharist

Background Reading for Today:

Chilcote, *Praying*, prayers 1-6

Chilcote, *Wesleyan Tradition*, ch. 1

Fri, July 11	The Living Word Praxis: Praying the Word	Prayer
	Background Reading for Today: Chilcote, <i>Praying</i> , prayers 7-12 Chilcote, <i>Wesleyan Tradition</i> , ch. 2-3 Slaughter, <i>Spiritual Entrepreneurs</i> , ch. 2	
Mon, July 14	A Saving Faith Praxis: Autobiography as Theology	Eucharist
	Background Reading for Today: Chilcote, <i>Praying</i> , prayers 13-18 Chilcote, <i>Wesleyan Tradition</i> , ch. 4-5 Slaughter, <i>Spiritual Entrepreneurs</i> , ch. 1	
Tue, July 15	Holistic Spirituality Praxis: Works of Piety/Works of Mercy	Prayer
	Background Reading for Today: Chilcote, <i>Praying</i> , prayers 19-24 Chilcote, <i>Wesleyan Tradition</i> , ch. 6-7	
Wed, July 16	Accountable Discipleship Praxis: Unity-in-Diversity	Eucharist
	Background Reading for Today: Chilcote, <i>Praying</i> , prayers 25-30 Chilcote, <i>Wesleyan Tradition</i> , ch. 8-9 Slaughter, <i>Spiritual Entrepreneurs</i> , ch. 4	
Thr, July 17	Sojourn to London	
	Background Reading for Today: Chilcote, <i>Praying</i> , prayers 31-36	
Fri, July 18	Formative Worship Praxis: Singing our Faith	Prayer
	Background Reading for Today: Chilcote, <i>Praying</i> , prayers 37-42 Chilcote, <i>Wesleyan Tradition</i> , ch. 10-11 Slaughter, <i>Spiritual Entrepreneurs</i> , ch. 3	

Mon, July 21 Missional Vocation Eucharist
Praxis: Hands-on Mission in Cambridge

Background Reading for Today:

Chilcote, *Praying*, prayers 43-48

Chilcote, *Wesleyan Tradition*, ch. 12-13

Slaughter, *Spiritual Entrepreneurs*, ch. 5

Tue, July 22 Celebrating Renewal in Contemporary Methodism Prayer
Praxis: Closing Eucharist

Background Reading for Today:

Chilcote, *Praying*, prayers 49-52

Slaughter, *Spiritual Entrepreneurs*, ch. 6

RESOURCES

Required Texts

Paul Chilcote, *The Wesleyan Tradition: A Paradigm for Renewal* (Abingdon)

Paul Chilcote, *Praying in the Wesleyan Spirit* (Upper Room)

Michael Slaughter, *Spiritual Entrepreneurs* (Abingdon)

Howard Snyder, *The Radical Wesley* (Wipf & Stock)

(Confer with the instructor before purchasing any of the following books.)

Theodore Jennings, *Good News to the Poor* (Abingdon)

Randy Maddox, ed. *Rethinking Wesley's Theology* (Abingdon)

Ted Campbell, *John Wesley and Christian Antiquity* (Abingdon)

Rosie Nixon, *Liberating Women for the Gospel* (Hodder and Stoughton)

Recommended Texts (In no particular order - * Wesleyan/Methodist in orientation)

*Howard Snyder, *Radical Renewal: The Problem of Wineskins Today*

*Howard Snyder, *Signs of the Spirit*

*D. Michael Henderson, *John Wesley's Class Meeting*

Preston Washington, *God's Transforming Spirit: Black Church Renewal*

Christian Smith, *Going to the Root: Nine Proposals for Radical Church Renewal*

W. A. Visser 't Hooft, *The Renewal of the Church*

*Leon Hynson, *To Reform the Nation*

*David Lowes Watson, *The Early Methodist Class Meeting*

Robert Webber, *Ancient-Future Faith*

*Karen Westerfield Tucker, *Methodist Worship in America*

John Parratt, *Reinventing Christianity: African Theology Today*

*Dick Wills, *Waking to God's Dream: Spiritual Leadership and Church Renewal*

John White, *When the Spirit Comes with Power*

John Howard Yoder, *The Fullness of Christ*

Thomas Rausch, *Radical Christian Communities*

Philip Jacob Spener, *Pia Desideria*
Alvaro Barreiro, *Basic Ecclesial Communities*
Leonardo Boff, *Ecclesiogenesis*
*Council of Bishops (UMC), *Vital Congregations - Faithful Disciples*
Richard Lovelace, *Renewal as a Way of Life*
Tom Sine, *The Mustard Seed Conspiracy*
Jean Vanier, *Community and Growth*
James E. White, *Rethinking the Church*
*Will Willimon & Robert Wilson, *Rekindling the Flame*
Guillermo Cook, *The Expectation of the Poor*.

REQUIREMENTS AND EVALUATION

1. General Class Participation/Reading (10%)

Your lively and informed participation in all class activities is valuable for you and contributes to the edification of all. Active involvement in class will be taken into account in determining final grades, both in terms of presence and engagement. In order to be disciplined in the reading of the necessary materials for the class, you are required to submit a “reading report” in which you indicate that you have read the required texts for the course and any additional readings, noting the author, title, and total number of pages read (A “reading report form” is included with this syllabus). The reading report is due **on or before Mon., August 25**. You are expected to read Chilcote, *The Wesleyan Tradition*, Slaughter, *Spiritual Entrepreneurs*, and Snyder, *The Radical Wesley* before arriving at Cambridge. In order to obtain an “A-level grade” in this course, you must read at least 1,500 pages (min. 1,200 = “B-level”).

2. Band Meeting Participation (10%)

Each student will be assigned to a Band Meeting on the first day of class, consisting of about four students each. Attendance will be taken in these sessions at the beginning of the class and absenteeism will result in a grade reduction. Participation in Band discussions is required. Discussion will be based upon readings for each day and questions posed by participants from the assignment noted below.

3. Written Assignments (50%)

A) Chilcote Reflection Paper (10%)

You are required to write a **two page** reflection paper (about 500 words; typed, double spaced, 12 pt font) on any **one chapter** in Chilcote, *The Wesleyan Tradition*, due on the first day of class, **Thr., July 10**. The purpose of this paper is for you to indicate your mastery of the main insights or concerns of the chapter and to draft one or two pertinent questions for discussion related to the material. The questions will provide the “jumping off points” for discussion in Band Meetings.

B) Reflective Praxis Plan (10%)

You are required to write a **two page** praxis plan (about 500 words; typed, double spaced, 12 pt font) based upon your reading of Slaughter, *Spiritual Entrepreneurs*. The purpose of this exercise is for you are to identify a central characteristic or axial theme related to renewal that you wish to exemplify in your own life and/or ministry. After articulating the theme and your vision, you are to discuss in concrete, practical terms how you hope to accomplish this. The plan is **due on the first day of class, Thr., July 10**.

C) Prayers Reflection Paper (10%)

You are required to write a **two page** reflection paper (about 500 words; typed, double spaced, 12 pt font) based upon your reading of Chilcote, *Praying*. The purpose of this exercise is for you to reflect on how your encounter with the substance of the John Wesley's "Standard Sermons" and Charles Wesley's "Hymns" has shaped your understanding of Christian renewal. Identify at least two critical insights that you carry away from this encounter into your ministry. You may complete this assignment before arriving in Cambridge, or you can read this material "devotionally" during the contact period of the course, as indicated in the syllabus. In any case, this paper (which may be hand-written) is due **no later than Tues., July 22**, before leaving Cambridge.

D) Book Report (20%)

You are required to prepare a **four page** book report (about 1000 words; typed, double spaced, 12 pt font) on any book selected from the "Recommended Texts" list or approved by the instructor. Guidelines for this assignment are provided with this syllabus. If you are able to select a book for this report and complete the task before arriving in Cambridge, all the better, but the report is technically due **on or before Mon., August 25**.

4. Seminar Project (30%)

Each student will propose a major project to be completed as a requirement for the course. This may be a research paper, case study, ministry project, strategy plan, or other form of project. Some suggested topics include:

Wesleyan principles of church renewal (for presentation in retreats, Sunday School classes, youth programs, etc.)
Comparative analysis of Wesleyan renewal and another movement
Study of a contemporary church or movement in relation to Wesley
Planning for congregational renewal (on a Wesleyan model)
Beginning or strengthening small groups in the congregation
More detailed analysis of any one factor in renewal
Preaching/teaching for renewal

An initial **proposal** (1-2 pages), including a description of the project, what you hope to learn, the approach or methodology to be used, contextual setting, and an initial bibliography or list of sources, must be turned **no later than Mon., July 21**.

The final project should be no more than 10 pages (typed, double spaced, 12 pt font). Include reference notes (footnotes or endnotes) as appropriate, and bibliography. Include a title page giving the paper's title, your name, the date, and Cambridge School. The grade will depend on the content, development, and clarity of presentation, and evidence of excellent research and project execution, not length. The project is due **on or before Mon., August 25**.

Submission of material after leaving Cambridge: All written material due after departure on July 22 should be submitted in one of the following ways:

- 1) Email: Attach your documents in a form readable by Microsoft Word to paul_chilcote@asburyseminary.edu
- 2) Fax: Fax documents to 407-482-7575, attn: Dr. Paul Chilcote. (Please make sure that every page includes your name.)
- 3) Snalemail: Mail documents to Paul W. Chilcote, Asbury Theological Seminary, 8401 Valencia College Lane, Orlando, FL 32825.

PREPARE TO HAVE A MARVELOUS TIME TOGETHER!!

Lord, thy Church on earth is seeking
Thy renewal from above;
Teach us all the art of speaking
With the accent of thy love.
We would heed thy great commission:
Go ye into every place -
Preach, baptism, fulfil my mission,
Serve with love and share my grace.

(Hugh Sherlock, 1905-)

BOOK REPORT GUIDELINES

The purpose of a reflection paper is to enter into a dialog with the material, that is to say, the person or community that has communicated their thoughts, feelings, and actions to you. Reflection, therefore, is an exciting adventure, a conversation, a means of growth. It is one of the important ways by which we can explore our own “inner world” and become open to God’s transforming power in our lives as we encounter others with whom we both agree and disagree.

A Reflection Paper in this course has a prescribed format. It should be four pages (typed and double-spaced) and divided into four distinct sections (one page each), headed with the titles, ABSTRACT, ANALYSIS, ANECDOTE, and APPLICATION

ABSTRACT (Readers’ Digest Summary). Simply summarize the content of the assigned reading in your own words. There should be no personal commentary or attempt to evaluate the content of the material. Summarize what the author says. Include as many of the key concepts and ideas as you can. Strive to be both comprehensive and concise. The summary should be stylistically correct, coherent and clear. Communicate the essence of the author’s work in your own language and symbols. If and when you do quote directly from the source (which should be extremely minimal, if at all), use explicit and visible quote marks. (Page One)

ANALYSIS. What questions came to mind as you worked your way through the material? It would be helpful to you if you were to keep a rough note sheet at hand as you read so you can write them down. In this section, list and briefly engage two or three of these central questions. Questions may be critical in nature, emerging out of spontaneous curiosity, essentially informational, or related to a serious plumbing of the depths of issues involved. Whatever the nature of your questions, make sure that they relate directly to the material content of the reading. (Page Two)

ANECDOTE. Describe one or two personal experiences which reading this material has brought to mind. Here is your chance to be a storyteller. Relate the experiences in “first person,” describing action, quoting exact words you remember hearing or saying. Be as specific and concrete as possible. Interface these memories directly with the material. Why are these memories related to the reading? What is it that has elicited this memory? If possible, here is an excellent opportunity to draw your experiences out of vocational circumstances. How do the “pastoral memories or accounts” relate to the issues that arise in the reading. The presupposition here is that if you can connect what you are reading and hearing with what you have previously lived or observed, you will be profoundly changed in the process. Here is where genuine insight can occur most meaningfully. (Page Three)

APPLICATION. So what are you going to do about all of this, anyway? Learning that is related to ministry must lead to “acts of piety and mercy,” whether these are transformative actions for your inner person or acquired skills and methods that have an impact on the lives of other people. In this section, describe what you feel called to do in response to what you have discovered in this reflective process. What has the Lord laid upon your heart? How can you translate that “word” or “call” into concrete action? To use a metaphor to help explain the ideal; you need a MAST upon which to attach this new sail into which the Spirit can blow. Whatever your action is, it should be Masurable, Attainable, Specific, and able to be accomplished within a given Timeframe. To provide a specific example, “For the next month during my times of prayer, I will meditate on a different attribute of God for five minutes.” Here is another opportunity to relate your learning to some specific aspect of your vocation or setting of ministry as well. Do not feel compelled to fill this final page, but some reflection upon why this action is necessary will be helpful to you. (Page Four)